Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of determining the shape of a dental prosthesis comprising the steps of:

a) scanning at least a connecting portion ~~(14)~~ of a preparation ~~(10)~~, wherein the preparation comprises a first anchor ~~(12)~~ and a connecting portion ~~(14)~~ connected thereto;

b) forming a physical model on the connecting portion ~~(14)~~ to produce a pontic ~~(22)~~; and

c) scanning at least the pontic ~~(22)~~

whereby the surface of the first anchor ~~(12)~~ is also scanned during a scanning step whereby the scanning steps can be carried out in either order.

2. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein, during a scanning step, the preparation ~~(10)~~ is scanned to provide data concerning relative locations of the first anchor ~~(12)~~ and connecting portion ~~(14)~~.

3. (Original) A method according to claim 2 wherein, data concerning the relative locations is used to align data obtained during the scanning steps.

4. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any preceding~~ claim 1 wherein, in addition to producing a physical model of a pontic ~~(22)~~, connectors ~~(22a,22b)~~ which connect the pontic ~~(22)~~ to the first anchor ~~(12)~~ are also produced and wherein said connectors are scanned.

5. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1 wherein, connectors ~~(22a,22b)~~ which connect the pontic ~~(22)~~ to the first anchor ~~(12)~~ are created by applying mathematical rules to data collected during the scanning processes.

6. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any preceding~~ claim 1 wherein, data produced when the first anchor ~~(12)~~ is scanned is used to calculate an offset.

7. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any preceding~~ claim 1 wherein, data produced when at least the connecting portion ~~(22)~~ is scanned is used to calculate an offset.

8. (Currently Amended) A method of producing a model of a dental prosthesis comprising the steps of:

scanning a preparation ~~(10)~~ having different features ~~(12,14,16)~~ to provide data concerning the relative locations of the different features within the preparation wherein the different features include a first anchor ~~(12)~~ and a connecting portion ~~(14)~~;

dividing a preparation into the different features ~~(12,14,16)~~;

individually scanning the different features ~~(12,14,16)~~ of the preparation; and

producing a model of a dental prosthesis by aligning data from the individual scans using the data concerning relative locations of the different features ~~(12,14,16)~~ within the preparation ~~(10)~~.

9. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a dental prosthesis comprising:

determining the shape of a dental prosthesis according to ~~any preceding~~ claim 1; and

producing the shape of the dental prosthesis from a ceramic former.

10. (Original) A method according to claim 9 wherein, the dental prosthesis is coated with porcelain.

11. (Currently Amended) A dental prosthesis produced according to ~~any preceding~~ claim 1.